

Among the surprises in the swamp is a shrub which Chapman describes (if I have identified it correctly) as two or three feet high, I believe, but in Okefinokee it often climbs trees twenty or thirty feet, by a new and unheard of method, without twining, tendrils, rootlets, or anything of the kind. The shrub I make out to be *Andromeda phillyreaefolia*, and the single tree which it climbs is one which has never had any parasites, epiphytes, or anything else reported from it; viz., *Taxodium imbricarium*.

From what I have read of Dismal Swamp and seen of Okefinokee I should judge that there is some little similarity between them, but I think Okefinokee is superior from a botanical standpoint. It contains many undescribed kinds of plant communities.

BRUNSWICK, GEORGIA, August 14, 1902.

IS THE WHITE-FRUITED STRAWBERRY OF PENNSYLVANIA A NATIVE SPECIES?

BY P. A. RYDBERG

In 1898, Mr. C. L. Gruber, of Kutztown, Pa., sent to Dr. Britton specimens of the so-called white-fruited strawberry of Pennsylvania. In his letter Mr. Gruber wrote among other things, the following: "The berries are cream-color, of an excellent peculiar flavor unlike other strawberries, globular, flattish-globular, or conical, usually with a very short neck."

As the specimens sent were so like the European *Fragaria vesca* that I could not find any other difference than the color of the fruit and perhaps a little more glaucous lower surface of the leaves, I thought that the specimens represented some escaped white-fruited form of the cultivated "Alpine" strawberries. In my monograph of the North American Potentilleae I therefore took up the Linnaean name *Fragaria vesca alba* and applied it to the Pennsylvania plant.

At the recent meeting of the A. A. S. at Pittsburg I met two persons well acquainted with the flora of western Pennsylvania, viz., Mr. Shafer, of the Carnegie Museum, and Mr. O. P. Medsger, of Jacobs Creek, and both thought that the strawberry was

a native, as it is common in southwestern Pennsylvania, eastern Ohio and northern West Virginia. That it has been cultivated in the region is true, for Mr. Medsger writes to me: "My father informs me that when he was a boy nearly sixty years ago, this strawberry was about the only form cultivated in the gardens. At that time perhaps most of the strawberries now cultivated were unknown." This, however, does not solve the mystery of its origin, and any information in this line will be highly appreciated. The true *Fragaria vesca* L. is not found wild in this country and is very rare even as an escaped plant, probably because it is seldom cultivated. Its American representative, *F. Americana*, has nothing to do with the white-fruited strawberry. The fruit of the former has a long neck devoid of achenes, which is not the case with the latter. Mr. Medsger has sent me fine fruits of the Pennsylvania plant and these are essentially those of *F. vesca*. The achenes in the mature fruit are wholly superficial, the receptacle not even bearing a trace of being pitted, and the sepals are spreading. The fruits are most of them almost spherical, some only slightly elongated.

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SHORTER NOTES

A MUCH-NAMED FUNGUS.—I am obliged to Mr. Shear* for calling my attention to the error made by Professor Tracy and myself in overlooking Cooke and Ellis' *Fusicladium fasciculatum* when we proposed the name *Scolecotrichum euphorbiae* for a commonly occurring fungus on different species of *Euphorbia*. As Mr. Shear points out there can be no question of the identity of the two and the specific name given by us must drop into synonymy. Unfortunately, however, other errors must be acknowledged. In *Muhlenbergia*, 1: 16. Au. 1901, I proposed the new genus *Cercosporidium* founded on this species as the type. A further examination of this material and of the numerous European specimens of *Passalora bacilligera* (Mont. & Fr.)

* Bull. Torrey Club, 29: 449. Jl. 1902.